

NEW SPECIES OF MALACHIUS FROM CALIFORNIA

(Coleoptera, Malachidæ)

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The writer has before him all of the known species and two new species of that *Malachius* group having the antennæ pectinate and in which the elytra are not appendiculate. Most of these species can readily be placed by means of Fall's key* published in 1901. To the species *mixtus*, however, have been relegated numerous females, many of which, upon discovery of males, have proven to be new species.

This paper was written at San Luis Obispo, California, while on my vacation in March and April, 1937.

Malachius yuccæ Hopping, n. sp.

Male. Length: 3 mm. Shining. Color blue-green except a broad band on anterior part of head, the under side of first segment of antennæ, the lateral margins of prothorax, and a central median band on each elytron, which are testaceous; a spot at apices of elytra rufous; tarsi sometimes lighter in color; pronotum with a broad testaceous band at lateral margins, the longitudinal central portion blue-green and shining; each elytron with a broad longitudinal testaceous stripe terminating at apex in a rufous spot.

Elytra not appendiculate. Antennæ pectinate, the pectinations on segments V to X longer than the segments and slender.

Female. Similar to the male but without the longitudinal stripe on each elytron although there is an indefinite indication of a stripe just above the apical rufous spot. Antennæ strongly serrate.

Pronotum wider than long in both sexes, with posterior margins broadly explanate. Elytra scabrous with indefinite longitudinal carinæ.

Holotype, male, allotype, female, and a paratype of each sex from Banning, California, collected by the author on March 6, 1933, from the flowers of *Yucca arborescens* Torr.

Superficially this species looks like the male and female of *floricola* Martin but the male antennæ in *yuccæ* are pectinate rather than serrate as in *floricola*. *Yuccæ* should be placed just

*Fall, H. C., Occ. Pap., Calif. Acad. Sci., VIII, pp. 247-248, 1901.

before *macer* Horn, a species with very much shorter pectinations of the antennæ. Three additional females were collected at Banning on March 30, 1937. Evidently a male and a female collected by Mr. F. W. Nunenmacher in Esmeralda County, Nevada, June 6, 1908, also belong to this species.

Malachius blaisdelli Hopping, n. sp.

Male. Shining and densely black in color except for the usual partly testaceous areas on the front of the head and near the eyes; lateral margins of pronotum and tips of elytra reddish; elytra shining dark blue; antennæ entirely black; pronotum with a black central area reaching the anterior and posterior margins, with a small black spot subbasally on either side; elytra dark blue except for rufous tips which fade to testaceous anteriorly; apical spots rather large and extending V-shaped into the blue of the elytra; ventral surface intensely black except for pale prothorax and margins of ventral segments; legs entirely black. An ashy, sparse, erect vestiture, especially on elytral margins and toward their apices and more or less on the ventral surface and legs.

Head with longitudinal depressions just inside the antennæ, with a broad, central, raised area between them. Antennæ pectinate with the pectination of segment V broader at base than at apex and shorter than VI; pectinations on segments VIII and IX longer than those on VI and VII, slightly longer than the segments and moderately stout. Pronotum broader than long. Elytra faintly scabrous; slightly wider near their apices. Length: 3 mm.

Female. Similar to the male but with the antennæ rather strongly serrate; the ashy, erect vestiture denser, and the lateral pronotal spots nearly obsolete.

Holotype, male, (No. 4764), and allotype, female (No. 4765), Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent., in the Blaisdell collection, taken at Stockton, California, May 12, 1933, by F. E. Blaisdell. Paratypes: two males and three females, Stockton, California, April 23, 1931; and two males and one female, near Lodi, San Joaquin County, California, April 12, 1930; all collected by F. E. Blaisdell. All paratypes in the collection of F. E. Blaisdell deposited in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences except for a pair in the collection of the author.

This species is nearest *mixtus* Horn but is more slender and smaller, *mixtus* being 3.5 to 4.5 mm. in length. Occasionally a female of *blaisdelli* lacks the lateral black spot on the pronotum.